



Dkt. 2271/66304-z

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

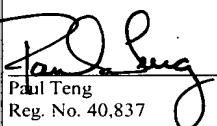
Application of: Tetsuya KUSANO et al.

Serial No.: 10/644,159 Group Art Unit: 2852

Date Filed: August 20, 2003 Examiner: Hoang X. Ngo

For: TONER BOTTLE AND ELECTROPHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS USING THE SAME

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

  
Paul Teng  
Reg. No. 40,837

December 22, 2003

Date

1185 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, N.Y. 10036  
(212) 278-0400

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Pursuant to the applicants' duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached Form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner, as a supplement to the Information Disclosure Statement concurrently filed with this application on August 20, 2003. A copy of the information identified herein are also provided.

It is respectfully requested that the information cited in annexed Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, and that such art be made of record in said application.

The enclosed item was cited in a November 14, 2003 official Communication and European Search Report in connection with European Application No. EP 01 12 7415 which corresponds to the above-identified application. A copy of the Communication and European Search Report is enclosed.

The other references cited in the November 14, 2003 Communication and European were previously disclosed by Applicants to the Patent Office in the August 20, 2003 Information

Disclosure Statement submitted concurrently with this application.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that these items are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of the particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

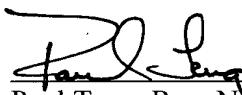
This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3). To the best of Applicants' knowledge, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the date of mailing of a first Office Action on the merits in connection with this case.

Alternatively, if an Office Action has been mailed which has not yet been received by Applicants or connected with the application file in the undersigned's office, Applicants request that this Information Disclosure Statement be considered under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c).

No fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, if any fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing the prosecution of the subject application, Applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone him at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Teng, Reg. No. 40,837  
Attorney for Applicants  
Cooper & Dunham LLP  
(212) 278-0400



<b>Form PTO-1449</b>  <b>S. Department of Commerce</b> <b>Patent and Trademark Office</b>								Atty. Docket No. <b>2271/66304</b>		Serial No. <b>09/989,914</b>			
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> <b>(Use several sheets if necessary)</b>								Applicants: <b>Tetsuya KUSANO et al.</b>					
								Filing Date: <b>November 21, 2001</b>		Group Art Unit: <b>2852</b>			
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>													
Examiner Initial		Document Number			Date		Name		Class	Subclass	<u>Filing Date if Appropriate</u>		
		5	9	2	1	4	1	6	7-13-99	Uehara			
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>													
		Document Number			Date		Country		Class	Subclass	<u>Translation</u>		
											Yes	No	
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>													
		November 14, 2003 official Communication and European Search Report.											
<b>EXAMINER</b>		<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>											
<b>*EXAMINER:</b> Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.													